

What is claimed is:

1. A vacuum assisted wound closure device, comprising:
 - a screen means for placement within a wound bed;
 - a sealing means adhered over said screen means and wound bed;
 - a vacuum source fluidically communicating with said screen means; and
 - a sensing device interposed between said screen means and said vacuum source.
2. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 1 wherein said sensing device is comprised of a gas chromatograph
3. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 2 wherein said gas chromatograph is comprised of a photo diode in optical proximity to fluids being drawn from the wound site towards said vacuum source.
4. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 1 wherein said sensing device is comprised of a sensor array.
4. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 1 further comprising a collection canister interposed between said screen means and said sensing device.
5. A vacuum assisted wound closure device, comprising:
 - a screen means for placement within a wound bed;
 - a sealing means adhered over said screen means and wound bed;
 - a vacuum source fluidically communicating with said screen means;
 - a collection canister interposed between said screen means and said vacuum source; and
 - a sensing device.
6. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 5 wherein said sensing device is embedded within said screen means.

7. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 5 wherein said sensing device is disposed on said sealing means, such that said sensing device is in contact with said screen means.
8. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 5 wherein said sensing device is disposed within said canister.
9. The vacuum assisted wound closure device of claim 5 further comprising a flexible conduit for communicating between said screen means and said vacuum source.

THE BOSTONIAN 11